BE AN ADVOCATE FOR SCIENCE

Write to Your Representative

Scientists are the best advocates for science. Representatives and Senators are always interested in hearing their constituent’s concerns and depend on learning your views as they develop positions on important public policy issues.

You only need to spend a short time to make a big impact on important biomedical research issues.

Write a Letter

Since the 2001 anthrax mail attacks on Congress, it takes longer to send a letter to Capitol Hill. Despite the added delay, a personal, thoughtful letter is still the best way to share your views.

To expedite its delivery, consider faxing or emailing your letter, or mailing the letter to your Representative’s District Office.

Tips for writing letters:

- Limit your letter to one topic
- Explain your reason for writing in the first paragraph
- Describe your credentials and area of research
- Explain how the issue affects you and your institution
- Include personal anecdotes if possible
- Do not be argumentative or critical
- When possible, send your letter on institutional letterhead

Send a Fax

If the subject of your letter is time sensitive, you may wish to fax it. You can find your legislator’s fax numbers at their websites. Follow the same tips for faxed
letters as for “snail” mail.

**Send an E-mail**

Many Congressional offices now offer web-based email forms for constituent communication. These forms are available on your Representatives’ and Senators’ website. Be sure to follow the “snail” mail tips.

To find website information about your Representative or Senator, visit [http://capwiz.com/jscpp](http://capwiz.com/jscpp).